

TOWN OF RICHMOND
NEW HAMPSHIRE
Office of Selectmen



August 24, 2015 Meeting

Selectmen present: Carol Jameson, Kathryn McWhirk and Christin Daugherty

Meeting opened at 4:30pm

*****Administrators Report**

Wood updated the Board on:

Two additional proposals for Town Hall/Vets Hall cleaning.

Conversation with landowner M405 L101. Landowner gave permission for assessing firm to go onto property to assess LUCT.

Pre-bid meeting at 4 Corners tomorrow at 9am.

*****Approve Manifest**

McWhirk moved; Daugherty 2nd; the Board voted to approve the accounts payable/payroll manifest dated Aug. 19, 2015 in the amount of \$411.61 for payroll omitted in Aug. 17, 2015 manifest. McWhirk moved; Daugherty 2nd; the Board voted to approve the accounts payable/payroll manifest dated Aug. 24, 2015 for the period 8/20-8/24/15 in the amount of \$12,002.23. This included payroll for monthly employees.

*****Selectmen**

Jameson reviewed that there is a Coalition meeting 8/25/15. Both John Boccalini and Jean Tandy from the Coalition Task Force and Selectman Jameson will attend. The Coalition received information from Eric Tomasi of FERC that the comment period will definitely be extended. The Coalition met with Representative Frank Guinta 8/19/15 and will be sending him a letter tomorrow reinforcing what was discussed in the meeting. Bob Weekes has suggested community activism against the pipeline and possible coordination with all towns along the pipeline. This suggestion will be discussed at the Coalition meeting tomorrow.

Re-routing of the proposed pipeline near Scott Mountain Road discussed. Board signed a letter to Representative Frank Guinta strongly opposing the change and stating that no advance notice of the change was given to the governing body.

Letter to FERC from Jennie Hill- reviewed. Board thinks the letter is excellent.

Resignation Letter from Librarian – reviewed.

Memo from Town's Attorney – reviewed.

The Town received notice that it did not receive the “Moose Plate” grant for the Tramp House, although the grant application scored very high.

Board reviewed invoices from Ransom for 4 Corners Store. Invoices approved pending RCDA approval.

McWhirk moved; Daugherty 2nd; the Board approved a building permit for a seasonal porch/cold storage on M409 L079. Foundation is required (sonotubes). ZCO inspected and approved.

McWhirk moved; Daugherty 2nd; the Board approved a building permit for 24X35 bathhouse as on M201 L021/022 using the approved site plan. ZCO inspected and approved.

McWhirk moved; Jameson 2nd; the Board approved a building permit for the expansion of an existing deck on M405 L007.

Zoning violation letter – M202 L046 – reviewed. Jameson to revise approaching the issue from the health aspect. Jameson to approve and send letter as Chairman of the Board.

The Board reviewed the recently tax deeded property M414 L009, M412 L053, M413 M008, L009, L010.

Board received notification from NH DOT that the Town's portion of the Highway Block Grant for fiscal year 15-16 is estimated at \$56,297.28. This is a modest increase over fiscal year 14-15. Increase is credited to the gas tax instituted July 2014.

Jameson moved; McWhirk 2nd; the Board moved to approve the Quitclaim Deed for M408 L008. This is for prior owner repurchase of tax deeded property. Wood to record deed with Cheshire County Registry of Deeds.

Capital Projects: Town Hall parking lot has been upgraded. Additional parking spaces have been added, landscaping started and several trees have been removed. Tree removal will help with melting snow on the driveway to town hall.

Public Appointments

Richard Drew/Surveyor met with the Board, reference the subdivision plans for the “little red house”. Board reviewed and signed the necessary documents to go forward with Public Hearing after the planning board meeting 8/25/15. Drew stated that it is taking very long to get State approval.

Ed Atkins/Fire Chief met with the Board, reference an area Fire Chiefs meeting attended last week where concerns related to public safety in reference to the proposed pipeline. Atkins is

preparing this, along with department members, specific to Richmond that will be submitted to FERC.

Atkins reviewed the status of the wetlands minimum impact permit related to the work on the fire pond. He reviewed status of forest fire investigations and that the Fire Department may want to start doing background checks on new volunteers.

Ed Atkins/Jonathan Pratt met with the Board, reference Little Monadnock Family Trails and the recently permitted trail through the Allen lot. Pratt distributed permission forms, relinquishing the Town from any liability. Trails Bureau has a \$2 million policy. Jameson advised that since permission can be terminated for any cause with 30 day notice, the Town can approve the permission indefinitely. One is for wheeled vehicle (ATV) and other for snowmobiles.

Members of the Conservation/Heritage/Agricultural Commission (Richard Drew, Jeff Taylor, Bob Weekes, Sandy Holbrook, Deb Potts) met with the Board to review the Sensitive Resources Inventory prepared by SWRPC. The members wanted to collaborate before releasing them back to SWRPC. Richard Drew stated that maps were very “plain Jane” and asked what they were prepared for. Jameson stated that SWRPC is preparing them for AECOM (pipeline) with permission from the Town because most Towns do not have the expertise. Drew indicated that he would like to see the Wetland Conservation District overlaid on the map and steep slopes should be noted. Jeff Taylor suggested a topographical map would be helpful. Taylor added that the submitted map really does not give any helpful information. Jameson questioned if any preserved land was on the route. Drew stated that I Granite (GIS) “layers” can be turned on to see different information. SWRPC should be able to access all this information and they just haven’t. Taylor does not believe there are any Town Conservation lands are located on the route. Holbrook questioned recreational trails; there are trails currently that cross the power line. Jameson stated that Little Monadnock Family Trails should comment to FERC.

Jameson stated that this exercise is to help prepare for the possibility of the pipeline being approved and knowing what areas may be impacted. Jameson also stated that ordinances should be reviewed (blasting, noise, work hours, etc.) and prepared for Town Meeting 2016.

Arthur Dupuis met with the Board, reference recent zoning letter sent by the BoS. He is objecting to the solution to the zoning violation proposed by the Board. The Board explained that they are not looking for instant change but are looking for consistent improvement. Daugherty explained the most recent letter was a follow-up to the site visit and the Board’s proposed solution. Dupuis can resolve the issue any way that meets zoning. Jameson said the Town is looking for compliance over time, nothing that is instant or perfect.

The type of fence was discussed. The fence needs to screen the “junk” from public and all abutters view.

Board will follow-up.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm